

FRENCH ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON INDOCHINA ON  
9 MARCH

I. Fundamental issue:

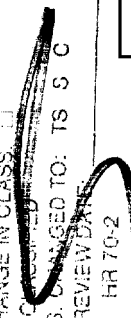
- A. try for immediate settlement  
with Viet Minh, or
- B. await Geneva.

II. Government intent on ending war at  
Geneva.

- A. Paris embassy commented: "The  
Government obviously bought time  
in Indochina with the Geneva  
conference, but the Assembly  
only extended credit on a short-  
term basis."

- 1. Embassy sees "insurmountable  
task" to counter Assembly  
pressure for negotiations  
with Ho if Geneva fails.

- B. Foreign Ministry spokesman said  
success of Geneva would depend

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on revision of American policy  
in China.

III. Assembly resolution also stated  
France relieved of obligations to  
Associated States if latter repudiate  
French Union.

A. This could foredoom current  
negotiations with Vietnamese,  
who demand dominion status.

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